

October 17, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Michael Copps,

I am writing to voice my opposition to any FCC-mandated adoption of "broadcast flag" technology for digital television. As a consumer and citizen, I feel strongly that such a policy would be bad for innovation, consumer rights, and the ultimate adoption of DTV.

A robust, competitive market for consumer electronics must be rooted in manufacturers' ability to innovate for their customers. Allowing movie studios to veto features of DTV-reception equipment will enable the studios to tell technologists what new products they can create. This will result in products that don't necessarily reflect what consumers like me actually want, and it could result in me being charged more money for inferior functionality.

If the FCC issues a broadcast flag mandate, I would actually be less likely to make an investment in DTV-capable receivers and other equipment. I will not pay more for devices that limit my rights at the behest of Hollywood. Please do not mandate broadcast flag technology for digital television. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Ryan Ware
17848 SW Bryan Way
Beaverton, OR 97007
USA

2003-10-18 07:44:13 (GMT)
16506181679 From

Saturday, October 18 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Commissioner Copps,

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later; clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Mohammed Samji
1 Microsoft Way, redmond, wa.
Redmond, WA 98052

Page 1 of 1
2003-10-18 07:36:22 (GMT)
165061816/9 From

Saturday, October 18 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

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Sincerely,

Kevin Cox
42991 Golf View Drive
Chantilly, VA 20152

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Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Thomas Sanderson
403 Coventry Lane
East Greenbush, NY 12061
USA

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Sincerely,

Geoffrey Meissner
4321 Collins Court, #1
Mountain View, CA 94040

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Sincerely,

Chris Ramseyer
4371 Atlanta Ave
Indianapolis, IN 46241

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Sincerely,

Larry D. Carl
2510 Carriage Creek Court
Midlothian, VA 23112

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Sincerely,

Richard Coleman
44 Jefferson St
Bangor, ME 04401
USA

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Sincerely,

Michael McDonald
307 Buena Vista
Albuquerque, NM 87106
USA

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Sincerely,

Joshua Price
28345 Suburban Dr
Warren, MI 48088
USA

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Sincerely,

jeff benoit
310 s hamel rd
Los Angeles, CA 90048
USA

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Sincerely,

Peter Willis
2698 Center Court Drive
Weston, FL 33332
USA

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Sincerely,

Joseph Hall
1501 Pink Cherokee Court
Apex, NC 27502
USA

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Sincerely,

Arian Kulp
705 7th Ave
Coralville, IA 52241
USA

October 17, 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Adam Debus
5001 College St SE, Apt C201
Lacey, WA 98503
USA

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Sincerely,

Mark McCormick
2008 Judah St
San Francisco, CA 94122
USA

October 17, 2003

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Michael Copps,

I am writing to voice my opposition to any FCC-mandated adoption of "broadcast flag" technology for digital television. As a developer of HDTV technology, a consumer and citizen, I feel strongly that such a policy would be bad for innovation, consumer rights, and the ultimate adoption of DTV.

I work at a company that makes HDTV chips, so I see HDTV technology around me all day. I've even written code that implements HDTV copy protection (DTCP). I have access to all the specifications and technical details of what will be mandated and I can see that it will only hurt the consumer. We need more openness in this marketplace. Everyone is already paranoid to try new things because "Hollywood" might crack down on them. I am worried about the future of my company if this broadcast flag is mandated. If there is no need to innovate then we may as well just wait for some offshore company to start cheaply mass producing our TV chips--we only stay on top of the curve by innovating, and if that is taken away then we are already dead. I feel that HDTV adoption is already on shaky ground and any more obstacles will severely hurt the marketplace.

The broadcast flag is going to turn our TVs into glorified movie theaters, where we will not be able to record anything for later viewing and even then we might have to pay just to watch a TV show twice. I know this because companies have already asked us about making our products capable of this kind of madness. I do everything in my power to squelch requests like these, but if the FCC sets the precedent by mandating this broadcast flag it will be impossible. Innovations such as Tivo will have such massive restrictions placed on them that they will have barely any value.

A robust, competitive market for consumer electronics must be rooted in manufacturers' ability to innovate for their customers. Allowing movie studios to veto features of DTV-reception equipment will enable the studios to tell technologists what new products they can create. This will result in products that don't necessarily reflect what consumers like me actually want, and it could result in me being charged more money for inferior functionality.

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Sincerely,

David Caldwell
10421 Lampson Ave
Garden Grove, CA 92840
USA

October 17, 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Rodney Mach
9805 Harbour Cove
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
USA

October 17, 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Ben Ceschl
33Inyo Circle
Novato, CA 94947
USA

October 17, 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Karl J. Smith
12525 SW Foothill Dr
Portland, OR 97225
USA

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

patrick grolemund
34 Laura Drive
Sandy Lake, PA 16145
USA

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Sincerely,

Matt Simpson
4116 Lenox Park Circle
Atlanta, GA 30319
USA

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Sincerely,

Sean Loulsin
51 Woodmark Run
Gahanna, OH 43230
USA

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Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Richard Soderberg
353 Blackstone St
Springfield, OR 97477
USA

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Jesse Weinstein
1851 S. Stearns Dr.
Los Angeles, CA 90035
USA